

business

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Unusual doings spark Sport Aviation Showcase

BY RICK BUTLER
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Want to watch a guy strap an engine onto his backside and go flying? How about seeing an aircraft engine conversion fully assembled and started up, all between 9 a.m. and 5 p.m.? Maybe inspecting a two-person commuter aircraft kit sounds pretty neat?

All the above will be among the featured events at the third annual Sport Aviation Showcase Nov. 1-3 on the DeLand Municipal Airport. Dozens of kit sport-plane makers, parachute makers, and accessory providers will be on hand. Throughout the three-day showcase, sport aircraft of all descriptions will be doing flight demonstrations.

Paul Czarnecki of Planet PPG (Powered Paragliding) will offer twice-daily demonstrations of the company's powered paraglider, with a strap-on engine and a paraglider soft wing for lift. He flies at 10:30 a.m. and 3 p.m. each day of the Showcase.

A Viking Aircraft engine team aims to take a Honda long-block engine and fully convert it to aircraft use — all in eight hours flat — and then fire it up to prove it works. That demonstration will be 9 a.m.-5 p.m. Saturday, Nov. 3.

The slick brand-new CommuterCraft Innovator is a carbon-fiber kit featuring side-by-side seating and a 900-mile range. Anyone forced to commute on I-4 might want a close look at this gridlock jumper.

Those seriously considering building a kit airplane of their own might want to sign up for a Zenith Aircraft kit. Zenith will offer a two-day workshop in which those signed up can complete a full-rudder assembly for their own planes, with the company's hands-on help.

Not ready to build your own? For the first time, used aircraft for sale will be available at this year's showcase.

The Showcase is held on the west side



PHOTO COURTESY PLANETPPG.COM

UP, UP AND AWAY! — Paul Czarnecki of Planet PPG (Powered Paragliding) heads for the skies with one of his company's power packs strapped to his backside. The propeller provides forward motion, and a parasail overhead provides the lift, so it is essentially a skydiver with its own power. Czarnecki will be demonstrating this device twice each day at the Sport Aviation Showcase in DeLand.



PHOTO COURTESY COMMUTERCRAFT.COM

FLY TO WORK? — Making its world premiere at DeLand's Sport Aviation Showcase is CommuterCraft's "Innovator," a side-by-side, two-passenger commuter plane kit. The carbon-fiber-bodied kit plane has a range of more than 900 miles. It employs a pusher propeller on the aft end of the fuselage for propulsion.

of the DeLand Municipal Airport. Gates open at 8 a.m. daily, and exhibits close at 5 p.m. Food vendors will be on-site, and parking is free.

Adult tickets cost \$18 online and \$20 at the gate, while tickets for kids ages 11-17 cost \$9 online and \$10 at the gate. Three-day-pass admissions are also available.

For more information or to get tickets, go to www.sportaviation-showcase.com.

Volunteers are still needed to help work the show in return for a full three-day pass. Contact www.sportaviationshowcase.com/getinvolved/ index to get your free T-shirt and three-day pass.

Construction begins on senior housing project

BY JOE CREWS
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Roger B. Kennedy Construction of Altamonte Springs has begun construction of Banyan Cove Apartments, a senior-living community on DeLand's north side.

The \$11 million contract with Boca Raton-based Banyan Development Group calls for Kennedy Construction to build a pair of four-story buildings plus do related site work. The 100-unit community is projected to be completed by December 2019, a Kennedy spokesman said.

Although completion is more than a year away, leasing already has begun through www.banyancoveapts.com, according to a sign on the property.

DeLand city commissioners approved the community earlier this year. The handicap-accessible complex will entail 37 one-bedroom, 675-square-foot units; 16 one-bedroom, 754-square-foot units; and 47 two-bedroom, 914-square-foot apartments, all sitting on a nearly 8-acre parcel at 250 W. International Speedway Blvd.

The site is northeast of where North Street and North Clara Avenue intersect, behind Gateway Village Shopping Center and across from Nordman Nursery and a city fire station on West International Speedway Boulevard. Two entrances, from West ISB and North Street, are planned.

The project was designed by Forum Architecture & Interior Design Inc., also from Altamonte Springs, according to the Kennedy spokesman.

Although projects of this size generally require 225 parking spaces, Banyan maintained that 152 spaces would more than accommodate the need generated by the project. City officials agreed.

Banyan plans to retain as many trees as possible, and install additional vegetation and landscaping to meet the city's land development code. It was determined there are no protected



BEACON PHOTOS/JOE CREWS

MOVING DIRT — Construction has begun on Banyan Cove Apartments, a 100-unit senior-living community on the north side of DeLand.



THIS IS WHAT'S TO COME — A sign on the property shows what Banyan Cove Apartments will look like and gives leasing information, even though the project isn't due to be completed until late 2019.

animal or plant species on the site.

The project is located behind commercial property and surrounded by a mixture of single-family, agricultural, civic and undeveloped properties. The northeast corner of the site is located within a 100-year flood zone — defined as areas subject to a 1-percent annual chance of flooding — and will remain undisturbed, according to an engineering consultant.

The Kennedy firm has been in continuous operation as a family-owned construction business for 148 years, and opened its Florida office in Orlando in 1972, the spokesman said. Headed by current President

Roger B. Kennedy Jr., Kennedy Construction ranks among Florida's largest construction companies and is one of Florida's largest family-owned businesses.

Banyan, a real estate development company focused on retail development and real estate investment in the Florida marketplace, has developed more than 3 million square feet of retail, office, industrial and residential real estate, primarily in Boca Raton and Wellington, with new projects underway in Broward County, Delray Beach and Lake Worth, according to the company's website, www.banyandev.com.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

Disaster-relief employment

Florida has been awarded federal **National Dislocated Worker Grants** to provide temporary employment to Floridians affected by Hurricane Michael. The program, administered by the **Florida Department of Economic Opportunity**, provides disaster-relief employment in the form of temporary jobs that support storm response and recovery efforts.

Disaster-relief employment supports projects that provide food, clothing, shelter and other humanitarian assistance for disaster victims and projects that involve demolition, cleaning, repair, renovation and reconstruction of damaged structures and facilities.

Individuals who qualify for disaster-relief employment are people who are temporarily or permanently laid off as a consequence of the disaster, dislocated workers including the self-employed who have lost work due to the hurricane, and individuals who have been unemployed long-term.

To look for employment opportunities to help rebuild Florida's communities after a disaster or to post disaster-related jobs where a labor force is needed, visit Florida's **Disaster Recovery Jobs Portal** at disasterrecovery.employflorida.com.

For information regarding National Dislocated Worker Grants, visit your local career center at careersourceflorida.com/your-local-team/.

Ollie's races open in O.C.

Ollie's Bargain Outlet, which is taking up about a third of a 100,000-square-foot former **Sears** and **Kmart** store in Orange City, held a ribbon-cutting and grand opening recently with the help of NASCAR driver **Austin Dillon**.

Ollie's, based in Mechanicsburg, Pennsylvania, specializes in closeout, liquidated and overstock merchandise at discounted prices, and it takes up about 33,000 square feet of the old Kmart at 814 Saxon Blvd. Two yet-to-be-named tenants will occupy the rest of the building on the west end of the **Orange City Marketplace** shopping center.

This is Ollie's 25th store in Florida. After a ribbon was cut at 9 a.m. Oct. 17, Dillon signed autographs from 10 to 11 a.m.



SUPPORTING OTHERS — Presenting a check from the W.S. Badcock Corp. are, from left, Timothy Schmitt, president of Badcock Home Furniture & More; Elizabeth Bhimjee, chief marketing and development officer of Duvall Homes; and Steven DeVane, CEO of Duvall Homes. Looking on in the background are store owners Greg and Juliane Dennison and employee Aaron Buchanan.

Store owners donate to Duvall Homes

Owners **Greg** and **Juliane Dennison** opened their second **Badcock Home Furniture & More** store in West Volusia in early August. The new store is at 2614 Enterprise Road (the Publix Shopping Center) in Orange City. Their first store is on South Spring Garden Avenue in DeLand.

To celebrate the opening, the Mulberry-based **W.S. Badcock Corp.** presented a \$1,000 check to **Duvall Homes** in DeLand, which since 1945 has provided residential supportive care and training for people with developmental disabilities.

Badcock Home Furniture & More has 340 stores in eight Southeastern states.

Realtor opens DeBary office

A Realtor has opened the 47th Florida-based, full-service brokerage office — this one in DeBary — for the national **NextHome All American** franchise.

The company will be owned and operated by real estate broker and second-generation Realtor **Teresa Saraco Cole**. As the CEO/owner of the company, Cole will handle all day-to-day operations and all training for the agents.

She will be joined on the leadership team by **Codie Tennant**, who will serve as the agent relationship manager. Tennant will be responsible for onboarding all agents and helping them with marketing and business development.

NextHome All American is at 430 Summerhaven Drive, No. 300. Call the office at 386-204-6398 or Cole on her cellphone at 386-848-0548.

— Compiled by Business Editor Joe Crews

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